

A Beautiful Tradition: Adaptation and Ingenuity in a Century of Plateau Women's Art

WORK SHEET
4th-5th Grades

1. Where is the Plateau region located? What is its main geographical feature south of the Canadian border?

2. Which Plateau tribes live in Montana?

3. Name another Plateau tribe that frequently came to Montana to hunt and to trade with Plains tribes such as the Crow:

4. What are two general cultural differences between tribes of the Plateau and those of the Plains?

5. List at least two of the art forms common among Plateau tribes *before* they acquired beads:

6. Plateau tribes use many different materials (or media) in their art. List four different materials used either to make or to decorate Plateau art before Europeans and Euro-Americans came to the region:

7. Where did glass beads come from? How and when did Plateau tribes acquire them?

8. What are the names of two sizes of beads often used as trade items?

9. What is special about faceted (cut) beads?

10. Beads quickly became very popular in Plateau (and Plains) art. List two of the reasons why:

(1)

(2)

11. What **design style** is used in the decorations on *cornhusk bags* and *baskets* of Plateau tribes?

What **design style** is very common on the *beaded bags* of Plateau tribes?

12. What is a **motif**? What is one motif often used on beaded Plateau-style bags and purses?

13. What is the difference in **function** between traditional cornhusk bags and the beaded flat bags of the Plateau region?

14. Describe **contour beading**:

15. What is **false embroidery** and what kind of Plateau art uses this technique?

16. Who were the primary Plateau **artists** creating twined bags and beaded bags?

17. Describe one of the Plateau bags you like best. In your description, remember to discuss the bag's **style**, **function**, and **composition** (media used, design type, motif, colors, etc.):

Tell why you like this bag :
